Working of foreigners as pilots

730. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign nationals working as commanders to meet the shortage of pilots; and

(b) the policy of Government to improve employment prospects of many youngsters in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) As of now there are 460 foreign nationals working as commanders to meet the shortage of pilots.

(b) The growing aviation sector provides ample employment opportunity to the trained youth. Government have also decided to upgrade the capacity of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) from 40 to 100 cadets a year and set up a new Flying Training Institute at Gondia in Maharashtra. Further, aircraft operators both scheduled and non-scheduled are permitted to employ foreign pilots as Commanders to train Indian Co-pilots so as to enable them being upgraded as Commanders, Due to shortage of appropriately licensed and type rated pilots to meet the growing demands of the industry the aircraft operators are also permitted to employ Co-pilots of foreign origin having the appropriate licence etc. Whenever both the Commander and Co-pilot in a flight are of foreign origin they are required to carry and Indian trainee pilot on board for exposing the latter to the lines oriented flying training.

Boeing company's overhaul hub at Nagpur

731. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Boeing Company is going to set a maintenance, repair overhaul hub in Nagpur for planes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much time it will take to get it operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) As a part of fleet acquisition by Air

India, M/s. Boeing have committed to invest upto US $ 100 million for creation of MRO facilities for Boeing aircraft in India. The choice of location is left to M/s. Boeing to decide.

Operation of non-scheduled airlines

732. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names and other details of non-scheduled airlines operating in the country;

(b) the percentage share of these airlines in the Indian domestic aviation market;

(c) the cities between operating/proposed to operate and the broad time-table and fare structure being followed by them; and

(d) the details of guidelines laid-down for equity norms and other regulatory requirements for such airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 47 non-scheduled airlines operating in the country. The names and number of aircraft with each airlines are as under:—

(1) Aerial Services Pvt. Ltd.-1, (2) Aerotech Aviation India Pvt. Ltd.-1, (3) Ahmedabad Aviation & Aeronautics Ltd.-2, (4)Airworks India Engg. (P) Ltd.-1, (5) Asia Aviation Ltd.-3, (6) Aviators India Pvt. Ltd.-1 (7)AR Airways (P) Ltd.-5, (8) Bharat Hotels Ltd.-1, (9) Bilakhia Holding Pvt. Ltd-Nil, (10) Century Textiles & Industries Ltd. -1,(11) Crescent Air Cargo Services Pvt. Ltd.-1, (12) Deccan Aviation-15, (13) Dhillon Aviation Pvt. Ltd.-1, (14) Escorts Ltd.-1, (15) EIH Ltd.-2, (16) Forum I Aviation Ltd.-2, (17) Global Vectra Helicorp Pvt. Ltd.-12, (18) Govt, of Jammu & Kashmir-1, (19) Himalayan Heli Services P. Ltd.-3, (20) HAL Rotary Wing Academy-3, (21) India International Airways-1, (22) Indo Pacific Aviation-1, (23) India Flysafe Aviation Ltd.-2, (24) Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd.-2, (25) Jupiter Aviation Pvt Ltd.-1, (26) JagsonAirlines-6, (27)Mesco Airlines Ltd.-6, (28) M.P. Flying Club Ltd. lndore-1, (29) Orient Flight School-2, (30) OSS Air Management Pvt. Ltd.-3, (31) Pawan Hans-31, (32) Prem Air-1, (33) Prabhatam Communication Pvt. Ltd.-I, (34)